

PATENT

Atty. Dkt. No. AVAN/001004

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the paragraph [0016] with the amended paragraph:

**[0016]** However, in the system shown in figure 2, it may still be necessary for the routers 215 to provide information back to the switch 205. Otherwise, the switch 205 will not be able to determine error information in the routers 215. A signaling system may be used in the optical domain to carry out this operation. The signaling may occur over a line ~~[[222]]~~ 202 or alternatively may be the standard SONET/SDA signaling.